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Testimony before the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Security for
Committee Bill No. 5326, AN ACT REQUIRING THE PRESENCE OF CARBON
MONOXIDE DETECTORS IN ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS.
February 15, 2011

Good morning, Chairman HARTLEY, Chairman DARGAN, Ranking members GUGLIELMO and GIEGLER, and distinguished Members of the Joint Committee on Public Safety & Security.

For the record, I am Representative Jeffery J. BERGER, serving the 73rd district in Waterbury. I am here to express my support for Committee Bill No. 5326, AN ACT REQUIRING THE PRESENCE OF CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS IN ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The Joint Committee on Public Safety & Security is a dynamic and necessary committee, and I and the public whom you serve are in its debt. I thank the members of this Committee for their continued work on behalf of the general public. This work is very important and must continue.

Each year, as Legislators, we vote on hundred of bills that affect the citizens of Connecticut. We do our best to consider all the information available in order to make informed and responsible decisions that are in the best interest of our constituents.

The purpose of Committee Bill No. 5326 is to amend Chapter 173, Section 29-292 of the General Statutes to provide that all existing public school buildings in the state be equipped with carbon monoxide detectors and that such detectors

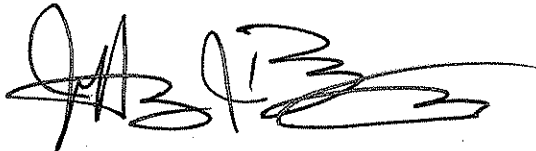
shall be routinely tested and inspected to ensure that they are in proper working order.

The changed regulations shall provide the requirements for testing and inspecting carbon monoxide detection and warning equipment installed in public school buildings and shall include, but not be limited to, the frequency with which said detectors shall be tested and inspected.

Also no certificate of occupancy shall be issued for any public school building for which a building permit for new occupancy is issued on or after January 1, 2012, unless the local fire marshal or building official has certified that said building is equipped with carbon monoxide detection and warning equipment in compliance with the Fire Safety Code.

Thank you for the opportunity to come before you and provide my testimony. I look forward to working with the Committee and General Assembly on this matter.

If you have any questions, I would be happy to take them now.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Berger', with a stylized, flowing script.

Jeffery J. Berger
State Representative, 73rd District